

Tami Robertson, front right, is shown creating a Frisbee at Kick-Off Kaos while Eddie Colt watches.

## LSUS 'Kaos' continues

### by Michael Doughty

Today is the second day of the Kick-Off Kaos, and it promises to be a day of fun events. From 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. tables and booths from many of LSUS' major organizations will be set up on the UC Mall to help start up the new school year. The Student Activities Board has planned an assortment of fun activities for students to participate in including the Psychic Fair, sand art, a professional DJ and psychedelic T-shirt tie-dyeing for students.

"Were kicking it off psychedelic style," SAB president Megan Johnson said. "It's a great way to start the new semester."

The Kick-Off Kaos is a good opportunity to meet new people or to join a new

organization. The fraternities and sororities will have booths set up to advertise their groups.

"It's a great way to get the message out," Kappa-Sigma President Andrew Brun said. "Students can sign up for rush which runs from (Sept.) 11 through the

Students can find food, fun and opportunities to join LSUS organizations at door.

Kick-Off Kaos, but that's not the only thing the SAB has planned for this week. Students can also buy tickets to the American Tragedy concert that will be held tomorrow night at 8 p.m. in the UC Theater. Advanced tickets are \$5 with a valid student ID and \$8 for a guest when purchased online or in the UC Office.

Tickets will be \$10 at the

## New e-mail affects all LSUS students

### by Lindsey Hudson

There is something new on campus this year, and you won't be able to find it in the bookstore or at the Port. It is a new e-mail system for students to use this semester. As part of a continuing effort by the administration to streamline communication, the new email system will be used for almost all communications between administrators, faculty and students.

While this may seem like a simple transition, there are a few differences between the old system and the new one. Students will be utilizing a new e-mail address based on their last name, first initial, and last two digits of their student ID number. Secondly, passwords will be the same ones used by Compass rather than social security numbers which were used by the old system. This is in accordance with a new policy to begin phasing out the use of students' social security numbers in dealings with the university.

E-MAIL continued on p. 6



### Fraternity

Alpha Phi Alpha joins LSUS



### Soccer

Lady Pilots start season 1-1

## the Almagest Volume 49, Issue 1

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"Almagest" is an Arabic word meaning "great" or "majestic." It is also the title of a book written by the ancient astronomer Ptolemy who is pictured on the front page of our paper.

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### **Editorial Policy**

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Mike Schwalke, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and e-mail address.

### Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. Letters should be e-mailed or submitted to the Almagest office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Please type the letter and include your classification and major. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by The Natchitoches Times.

### Corrections

In Volume 48, Issue 12 we reported that the radio telescope was erected atop the Sciences building when in fact it is atop Bronson Hall.

## Being productive is key to success

### by Mike Schwalke

Here we are again, another fall at LSUS. Or perhaps it is your first semester. At any rate, this is where I'm supposed to welcome everybody back in fine Almagest tradition. Of course I'm supposed to say that you'll be seeing a lot of changes—new staff replaces old—and that it's going to be a great semester.

Instead I'd like to discuss a problem that many students grapple with every day. This problem manifests itself early in the semester but doesn't expose its hideous seventh head until the blackest moments before finals. Of course, I'm talking about procrastination.

But rather than talk about why we procrastinate, I would like to talk about how amazingly efficient and productive people can be when they're not doing what they're supposed to be doing.

I know that when I feel that deadline chasing me like a rabid Doberman I find time to do all sorts of wonderful things. First, there's always a chance to play another game of Minesweeper. I was so close to beating the expert board the last time. Or maybe I can check my e-mail again, for the fourth time this hour. Time for another cigarette break. I wonder if anybody is on MySpace right now.

Of course, that course of action is ultimately soul-sucking. If you have loved ones who can observe you procrastinating, the guilt piles up quickly. And although guilt is a terrible motivator, I know it makes me do something so I can answer that most dreaded of procrastination-revealing questions: "So, what did you do today?"

I can point to the clean bathroom, the clean kitchen, the waxed floors, the mowed lawn, the bookshelves organized first by subject, then by color, then by size. I sharpened all of my pencils and cleaned the fish tank and screwed in that hook in the bathroom and tested the batteries in the smoke

alarm. I read 200 pages today. I made a fourcourse dinner. I vacuumed the couch. I painted the hallway. I have the cleanest bedroom in the neighborhood.

And the thing that I really needed to do? That pressing issue that has to be taken care of ASAFP? The thing that was the 800-pound gorilla in the room a week ago but has now grown to inconceivable proportions?

Well, that has to wait until tomorrow. I've had a busy day.

Does this sound familiar? Are you ready to do anything except what you need to do?

Not every project has to unfold like the passing of a kidney stone.

I want you to make a psychic pact with me. I want you to take the next assignment you get and just do it. Don't wait. Just take it and work your fanny off like it's due in five minutes. Work like you just set your alarm for 4:30 a.m. so you have enough time to finish the last nine pages of that paper. Feel how the other half lives. You already know you can type 170 words a minute, so long as that minute is the last one before your paper will be late, so channel that energy now. Attack your school work like you've just had four espressos and five sinus pills.

Just think, if you don't procrastinate, then you won't waste all of your time doing all those things you do when you're procrastinating.

\*\*\*\*

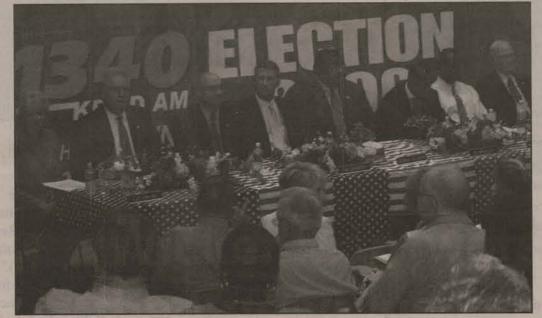
I would like to dedicate this issue of the Almagest to the late, great Steve "Crocodile Hunter" Irwin (1962-2006). He was the type of madman that only a continent settled by criminals could produce.

Instead of drinking coffee, he would put his head in a lion's mouth. He thumb wrestled with gorillas. He could fight his way out of a warren of mating crocodiles and look good doing it.

Rest in peace, you Aussie man-child. You'll be missed.

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### Mayoral Election '06



Nine of 11 Shreveport mayoral candidates piled into the Science Lecture Auditorium on Aug. 16. The LSUS-sponsored event was broadcast live on Supertalk 1340 AM as part of Tom Pace's "Talk of the Town." Pace served as moderator. Pictured, from left to right, Liz Swaine, Max Malone, Jerry Jones, Tim Goedders, Cedric Glover, Ed Bradley, Henry Hodge-Bay and Vernon Adams. Not pictured is Arlena Acree.



Lauren Anderson, left, interviews Shreveport mayoral candidate Vernon Adams last Tuesday as he visited the LSUS campus. Adams and several other candidates answered student questions. Look for the upcoming candidate profiles in next week's issue of the Almagest.

## LSUS sorority recruiting voters

### by Saphronya Baker

The Phi Phi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority made their presence known during the first week of school as they urged students to register to vote. The Deltas held a voter registration drive Aug. 29 and Aug. 31 during Common Hour.

LaToria Wright, Delta Sigma Theta president and senior biology major, said the goal of the voter registration drive was to get as many students as possible registered to vote. Wright says the sorority holds the voter registration drive during the first week of school in an attempt to get unregistered freshman signed up and also to give transfer students the opportunity to change their voter registration informa-

Charity Shed, a junior transfer student from Xavier University, found the voter

registration drive helpful because it gave her a chance to change her voter registration information in between her classes. Shed said she probably will not be voting in the upcoming mayoral election but was glad the voter registration drive made it easier for her to change her voter registration information.

Wright said the voter registration drive is vital "because as young people it is very important that we get our voices heard."

Wright said it was unfortunate that the last day to register for the Sept. 30 primary was Aug. 30 because that limited the sorority's time to get students regis-

In order to register to vote you must have your social security number and driver's license. You can register when you are 17 years old but you must be 18 by the next election.

## Alpha Phi Alpha comes to LSUS

### by Justin Powell

It has taken three years to get a chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity on the LSUS campus. The idea to put the fraternity on LSUS campus came from seven Centenary College students who had members of their families in the fraternity. The Centenary students wanted to establish the fraternity before they graduated so they could see it grow.

Chris Lavan was a main reason for the fraternity's being established at LSUS.

He started as a sophomore trying to get the fraternity going and finally got the okay from both Centenary and LSUS. The Tau Beta chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity will be the first African-American fraternity on either campus, though they do not bar other races from pledging.

"I think this is an excellent gesture on LSUS's administration's side to show the diversity that the university is looking for," Sebastian Edwards, Alpha



Members of the LSUS Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity are, from left to right, Patrick Patterson, PJ Williamson, Shawn Richardson and Sebastian Edwards.

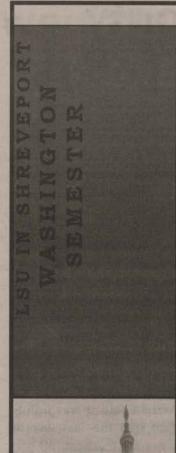
general."

Like any other fraternity, the Tau Beta chapter is vice president, said. "Not steeped in tradition. The

only is it good for LSUS, fraternity will be celebratbut also for our fraternity in ing its 100th anniversary this year.

> For such a milestone, the fraternity brothers plan to throw a party.

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity will be holding an information meeting today at 7:06 p.m. in the UC's Webster room.



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### Professor to bring history twist to KDAQ

### by Mike Schwalke

Red River Radio has a new voice with a new message. Dr. Gary Joiner, assistant professor of history, debuted a new weekly segment on Sept. 5. The segment, entitled "History Matters," will be a weekly fixture at 7:35 a.m. every Tuesday.

The inaugural segment outlined Joiner's mission and told listeners just what they would be hearing and why.

"It's eclectic history. I don't focus on north Louisiana or the Ark-La-Tex," Joiner said.

"There's a lot to talk about, and I'll hit things as I muse upon them."

Joiner has already recorded 12 segments on subjects that range from ghost towns to Civil War battlefields to the Israel-Hezbollah con-



**Gary Joiner** 

flict.

"Gary and I have been thinking about this for a while," said Adam Giblin, program director for Red River Radio. "He's got total license over the (segment)."

Giblin noted the need for local programming since National Public Radio is available on the Internet as well as the airwayes.

Joiner will join local commentators Dr. Suzanne Schmidt on Mondays, (Shreveport) Times columnist Teddy Allen on Wednesdays and Stephen F. Austin professor Dr. Archie Mac-Donald on Fridays.

This is not Joiner's first foray into radio. In addition to helping out during Red River Radio's semi-annual fund drives, he is a member of the station's advisory board.

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Laura Meiki

## Red Cross signing up LSUS students as volunteers

### Preparation beginning in case of devastation

### by Mickeal Key

Ask any scholarship committee, honor society, sorority or fraternity what they look for in candidates and they will always list volunteer work as one of their criteria. Now more than ever there are opportunities to make a difference in the community while racking up some volunteer hours.

Sonna Frierson, a volunteer recruiter for the local branch of the American Red Cross, wants to get students involved. She is looking for students to pitch in an hour or two per week.

"We don't want to tie anyone up," she said. Frierson understands LSUS students' tight schedules but needs as many volunteers as possible in case another disaster like last years' hurricanes Katrina and Rita strike.

"There is a big need," Frierson said. "We have 3,000 registered volunteers but we don't know how many people will be able to help (in the event that disaster should strike.)"

Students who are interested in community service can also take part in the American Humanics Program. According to the American Humanics Program coordi"We have 3,000 registered volunteers, but we don't know how many people will be able to help."

Sonna Frierson volunteer recruiter

nator Laura Meiki, the nationally recognized program is designed to prepare students who plan on going into human service careers by providing volunteer opportunities along with internships and workshops.

The program has formed partnerships with many well known non-profit organizations like the Northwest Louisiana Food Bank, The American Red Cross, Boys & Girls Club of America and the YMCA to provide students with unique service learning opportunities.

The Institute for Human Services and Public Policy is starting a new service learning program. Starting this fall and every semester afterward, four instructors will take part in a service learning fellowship. The instructors are chosen by the director of the Institute for Human Services and Public Policy, Dr. Norman Dolch.

The first four instructors to complete the fellowship will be: Mary Jarzabek, instructor of communications and director of forensics; Dr. Bernadette Palombo, associate professor of criminal justice; Cleatta Morris, instructor of English and director of the University Writing Center; and Jason Mackowiak, associate professor of fine arts.

The courses they teach, which will become available in the spring, will then have a built-in service learning component. Examples Meiki gave were of an art class going to a local school and painting a mural or a sociology class going to a homeless shelter and then having a class discussion on what they experienced.

Students who wish to receive a certificate in service learning along with their degree will have to pick only four courses (12 semester hours) which have service learning components.

# NFLPN gets new chapter at LSUS

### by Ashley Toles

The National Federation of Licensed Nurse Practitioners has a new LSUS chapter, and they are already doing things in the community.

The NFLPN chapter started in spring 2006 with the goal to raise \$200 for the March of Dimes. But the nine active members were able to surpass their goal and raise \$370. Each semester the NFLPN will select a charity or foundation to support. This fall the organization will decide which charity they will help and then set the fundraising goal.

"Although we are just student nurses, we are getting a jump start on helping others in the community," said Liz Elledge, NFLPN president and continuing education student.

Kimberly Sepulvado-

Haught, director of nursing, said the members of the NFLPN "are hard-working and dedicated." She said that the NFLPN will be a positive role model in the community and bring recognition to LSUS.

The organization is not limited to aspiring LPNs. Anyone who is interested in helping the community can participate. Members who are not in the PN certificate program will be considered affiliate members.

The NFLPN promotes continued competence through education—both certified and life-long learning—with a focus on public protection. The Louisiana chapter of the NFLPN meets on the first Friday of every month, and the LSUS chapter meets the following Monday. Most meetings are held after classes.

# Mascot contest open to students

### by Mike Schwalke

The Student Government Association mascot committee is currently running a contest to decide the name of LSUS' new pelican mascot to participate in the survey, log on to Blackboard and click under "SGA Announcements." Students can enter as many names as they want.

LSUS sports teams will continue to be called the Pilots. This is a contest to determine only the name of the new mascot.



LSUS is soon to have a mascot and mascot name. Pictured is an example of a mascot.

### E-MAIL, continued from p.1

The university will try to begin communicating with students via the new e-mail system exclusively. This will require students to check their e-mail almost daily which is something that students will require time to adapt to.

"Having to check another e-mail account for me is something that I do not feel to be necessary," said Russell Crews, a senior general studies major. "Why can't the university send it to one of my many personal e-mail accounts? I feel that having to check another e-mail account is just one more thing I have to remember on a daily

basis.

An official LSUS mailer sent to all current students said that not sending official information to personal email accounts is a matter of protecting the security of the students.

While there may be some opposition to the new e-mail system, not all students feel it is inconvenient.

Peter Miller, a senior political science major and recent transfer to LSUS said, "Honestly, checking e-mail is not that big of a deal. I have two personal e-mail accounts and checking one more for me won't matter."



# 'Wicker Man' worse than previous version

### by Chris Gray

"The Wicker Man" was, by far, one of the most poorly put-together films I have ever seen. It was just horrible

It is a remake of the 1973 cult classic of the same name — the old one was bad too. I was hoping they would revamp it and make it better; instead, it was another movie not worthy of the infamous cult classic status. Not just in delivery but in packaging as well.

The trailers made it out to be some sort of scary and truly terrifying movie, yet it was nothing like what the film company wanted us to believe.

There were so many instances of crap that I can't even begin to name them all but I will try. For one, the film supposedly centers around druidism and ritual pagan sacrifice. Yet no ritualistic sacrifices are seen; instead, the movie moves with the speed of a slug and centers around Edward Malus (Nicholas Cage), a traumatized cop who ventures to the remote and privately owned island of Summers Isle looking for a missing girl after receiving a letter from an old flame.

This is when the film begins just to trudge along with limp dialog and poor acting. I never felt the immense trauma this man was supposedly going through, or the way he feels about his old girl friend or even his emotion when he finds out important details in the film. Perhaps it was because Nicholas Cage wasn't trying to act or was saving his good stuff for his other four movies that are coming to theaters in the next year. It sure didn't seem like he was an actor in this film because he was so dry in the delivery of his lines. The emotional weight of a situation is never seen on Nicholas Cage's face.

It seemed as if director Neil Labute just said "action" and "cut" and that's about it. The direction was ambiguous to say the least; you really couldn't tell the film had a director, because he surely didn't direct the actors well enough to get me immersed in a story. Labute's direction had so many flaws that it was nearly impossible to bring anything away from the film other than confusion and anger: confusion about what I just saw, and anger after I figured out that what I just saw was worthy of a refund of time and money.

There was nothing that caught my eye or stood out about the cinematography or lighting. Some of the camera work set a scene up nicely by bringing the subject into focus and making it the center of the shot, but for the most part nothing special.

And speaking of special, the effects were nonexistent unless you consider blackand-white dream sequences special.

Those were some of the most annoying scenes in the whole movie—there wasn't a smooth transition into those scenes.

It was Cage lying on a bed moaning and writhing and then it was black and white and he is back at his traumatizing moment and seeing things from the island. Once again, these things weren't that scary to begin with.

The scariest part of the film was a scene with some bees in it, and it was quite creepy—but that was it.

"The Wicker Man" is not something to take a date to unless you want your date to fall asleep or never go on another date with you again. Don't even rent this when it comes out on DVD. It was that bad.



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## SPORTS

## Soccer team kicks off second season

### by Chrissy Chiri

The LSUS Lady Pilots soccer team has kicked off their season and have jumped off to a good start. After beating their first opponents of the year 6-0 against D-I school Southen University of Baton Rouge and losing only 1-0 against D-I squad Northwestern State University, the team is feeling good about how they are playing.

"I definitely think we are better this year, especially with the new people we have brought in," assistant coach Allen Sihatrai said.

There have been seven new additions to the squad for this season. Last year was the first time LSUS had a soccer team at the school.

The Lady Pilots exceeded expectations by going 2-2 in conference play and making the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference tournament. They came in second place – only one win short of making the national tournament.

Their loss in the tournament championship game came against the University of Mobile Rams, who was ranked no. 13 in the nation at the time.

"This year we match up better against them, but they will still be our toughest team to beat," Sihatrai said.

The Lady Pilots begin conference play on Sept. 26 at home against the Belhaven Blazers. Before then, they will take on four more Division-I opponents as they prepare themselves for the tough conference schedule.

According to Sihatrai, captains Brenna Busssart and Michelle Williamson are being looked upon to step up and be leaders this year.

"We always work hard. We have through pre-season and just had to get mentally



GREGG TRUSTY

The Lady Pilots soccer team is back in action. Michelle Williamson, center, is shown, along with teammate, Katrina Blackwell, far right.

prepared for this first game. They (Southern) thought they were going to murder us because it was their first time in their new stadium, but we just used everything we had been practicing for the past

two weeks and it worked out really well," middle forward Williamson said.

The sophomore psychology major said that by playing the D-1 teams, the team will be much better prepared for

conference games.

LSUS will take on Union University in Jackson, Tenn., tomorrow beginning at 7 p.m. as part of a two-day event.

### 2006 SOCCER SCHEDULE

### The women's 2006 soccer schedule has recently been released.

9/8/2006 7:00PM 9/9/2006 3:00PM 9/17/2006 1:00PM 9/19/2006 4:00 PM 9/22/2006 4:00PM 9/26/2006 5:00PM 9/29/2006 7:00PM 10/1/2006 1:00PM 10/7/2006 1:00PM 10/12/2006 7:00PM 10/12/2006 7:00PM 10/12/2006 7:00PM 10/14/2006 7:00PM
9/17/2006 1:00PM 9/19/2006 4:00 PM 9/22/2006 4:00PM 9/26/2006 5:00PM 9/29/2006 7:00PM 10/1/2006 1:00PM 10/5/2006 4:00PM 10/7/2006 1:00PM 10/12/2006 7:00PM 10/14/2006 7:00PM
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10/14/2006 12:00pm 10/17/2006 7:00PM
10/17/2006 7:00PM
10/20/2006 2:00PM
10/22/2006 1:00pm
10/28/2006 5:00PM
11/3/2006 TBA

Opponent Union University Crighton College Prairie View A&M Nicholls State University Southern-Baton Rouge Belhaven College \* William Carey College \* Loyola University \* William Carey College \* Spring Hill College \* University of Mobile \* Spring Hill College \* Stephen F. Austin University University of Mobile \* Loyola University \* Belhaven College \* Region XIII Tournament

Location Jackson, TN Jackson, TN Prairie View, TX Thibodeaux, LA Shreveport, LA Shreveport, LA Hattiesburg, MS New Orleans, LA Hattlesburg, MS Shreveport, LA Mobile, AL. Mobile, AL Nacodoches, TX Shreveport, LA Shreveport, LA Jackson, MS TBA

## LSUA joining GCAC

New baseball opponent coming in 2008

### by Chrissy Chiri

The ACC has got Duke and North Carolina, and the SEC has LSU and Auburn, and now it looks like the Gulf Coast Atlantic Conference is gearing up to create its own rivalry. LSU in Alexandria is joining the GCAC in the year 2008.

According to LSUS Athletic Director Doug Robinson, LSU in Alexandria will be joining the conference by playing softball and baseball. Robinson said he has been a part of this process and looks forward to having more competition in the conference. In later years, they will add other sports to the GCAC but will start out only with softball and baseball. LSUA was very grateful to Robinson for his help in getting them started.

For LSUS, this means their successful baseball program will have to overcome another opponent to keep up with their statusquo.

## Fun & Games

### Calendar of Events

### Thursday, September 7 7 - 8 a.m. Fitness Cardio

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Kick-off Kaos Entries due for Flag Football

### Friday, September 8

6:45 a.m. Running Group

> 12 - 1 p.m. Yogalates

8 p.m. American Tragedy Concert

### Monday, September 11

12:15 to 12:45 p.m. Learn and Burn Weight Management Program begins

3:30 to 4 p.m. 30-minute beginner cardio

> 4 to 4:25 p.m. 30-minute abs/weight training

Movie Night - "United 93"

Last day for 60% refund for Fall Term Pilots Pedometer Challenge begins Play for Flag Football begins

### Tuesday, September 12

10:30 a.m. Campus Involvement/Opportunities

12 - 1 p.m. Yogalates NCAA football '07 sign-up deadline

### Wednesday, September 13

12 - 1 p.m. Wednesday Workout Racquetball

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Cardio and abs/weight training

### WEATHER

### TODAY: Sunny

Hi:93 Lo:62



Hi:93 Lo: 65

### SUNDAY:

Scattered T-Storms Hi: 90 Lo: 69

### TUESDAY: Isolated T-Storms Hi: 86 Lo: 67

### SATURDAY: Partly Cloudy Hi:93 Lo: 68

### MONDAY: Scattered T-Storms HI: 85 Lo: 67

### WEDNESDAY: Scattered T-Storms Hi: 89 Lo: 66

### Sudoku Puzzle

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through to 9. There is only one solution to the puzzle.

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### By: Mike Schwalke and Lou Manna

### Bert Stroud, the Anthropologist









